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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/23/06

SPONSOR Irwin LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 94

SHORT TITLE NMSU Southwest & Border Regions Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Earp

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$200.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Senate Bill 263

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)  
New Mexico State University (NMSU)  
Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 94 appropriates \$200,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to support the Southwest and Border Regions Health, Education, Culture and Development Research Program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

NMSU indicates that this funding would be utilized to help support undergraduate and graduate student involvement and to provide for effective coordination of interested institutions, agencies and organizations from around the state and region.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Information submitted by the Higher Education Department (HED) and NMSU indicates that the Southwest and Border Regions Health, Education, Culture and Development Research Program is designed to conduct research on the United States/Mexico border. The intention of the program is to understand the key needs of culturally diverse populations on both sides of the border. To facilitate this research, the program has been divided into clusters (health, education, culture and development) to explore why the social and economic disparities persist along the United States/Mexico border. The cluster model is intended to attract funding from state, federal and private programs. The program will document needs, develop programs to address them, and evaluate program success. Some issues that could be examined through the program include health care, immigration, homeland security, pollution, drug trafficking, and trade.

This program was endorsed by the NMSU Board of Regents and submitted to HED for review. However, HED did not recommend funding to the LFC and Executive branch, and funding for this purpose is not included in those agency recommendations to the Legislature.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

NMSU would bear the administrative responsibility for managing the research program proposed in this legislation.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

House Bill 94 and Senate Bill 263 are duplicate measures.

DE/yr